NSSO report on Unemployment

2362. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the National Sample Survey Organisation report on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India 2004-05, unemployment rate is highest among the educated and the lowest among the illiterate across all categories;

(b) if so, what are other main points of the Survey Report;

(c) whether Government have examined National Sample Survey Report fully;

(d) if so, what concrete steps Government propose to take to provide jobs to the unemployed youths; and

(e) whether liberalizations of the economic policy has also not helped in any way in providing more employment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Highlights of Report of the 61st round of National Sample Survey Organisation on Employment and Unemployment survey are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) This is a fact-finding report prepared by the National Sample Survey Organisation, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementetion.

(d) Government is attempting employment generation in the normal growth process of the economy as well as through special employment generation programms. The special programmes include Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Sampoorna Grameen Rojgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana, etc. Besides these, Government is also implementing National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the 200 identified districts of the country, which provides for at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household in the rural areas and whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

(e) Due to globalizaton and economic liberalizaton, some employment opportunities in the older type of enterprises might have been reduced due to declining efficiency, but at the same time new employment opportunities are created in a number of new areas such as information technology, tourism, financial services, construction, manufacturing, etc.

Statement

Highlights of the National Sample Survey Report on Employment and Unemployment Situation in India 2004-05.

This report is based on the seventh quinquennial survey on employment and unemployment conducted in the 61st round of NSS during July, 2004 to June, 2005. The survey was spread over 7,999 villages and 4,602 urban blocks covering 1,24,680 households(79,306 in rural areas and 45,374 in urban areas) and enumerating 6,02833 persons (3,98,025 in rural areas and 2,04,808 in urban areas). Employment and unemployment were measured with three different approaches, *viz.* usual status with a reference period of one year, current weekly status with one week reference period and current daily status based on the daily activity pursued during each day of the reference week. Unless otherwise stated, 'all' usual status workers will mean all workers taking into consideration the usual principal and subsidiary status taken together. Some of the key findings are stated below.

A. HOUSEHOLD AND POPULATION

* According to the survey estimates, a little over 73 per cent of the households belonged to rural India and accounted for nearly 75 per cent of total population.

* About 11 per cent of households in both the rural and urban areas were headed by females. Compared to all households, they had, on an average, a relatively smaller household size and a much higher sex-ration.

* During 2004-05, in India, in as many as 26 per cent of the households in the rural areas and 8 per cent in the urban areas, there was no member in the age group 15 years and above who could read and write a simple message with understanding.

* Among those households having at least one member of age 15 years and above, about 4 per cent in the rural areas and 8 per cent in the urban areas had no usually employed member of age 15 years and above.
* About 57 per cent of the rural and 64 per cent of the urban population belonged to the age group (15-59 years).
* In the rural areas, during 2004-05, about 64 per cent of males and 45 per cent of the females were literate. The corresponding proportions, in the urban areas, were 81 per cent and 69 per cent.

B. LABOUR FORCE

* According to the usual status (ps+ss), about 56 per cent of rural males and 33 per cent of rural females belonged to the labour force. The corresponding proportions in the urban areas were 57 per cent and 18 per cent, respectively.
* During the period 1999-2000 to 2004-05, the LFPRs according to usual status (ps+ss) increased by nearly 2 percentage points for males and about 3 percentage points for females, in the rural areas. In the urban areas, during that period, it increased by about 3 percentage points for both the males and females.

C. WORK FORCE

* About 42 per cent of the populations in the country were usually employed. The proportion was 44 per cent in the rural and 37 per cent in the urban.
* The gender differential in the worker population ratio (WPR) was distinct: 55 per cent for males and 33 per cent for females in the rural areas, and 55 per cent for males and 17 per cent for females in the urban areas.
* The daily status rates were slightly lower than the current weekly status rates, which, in turn, were slightly lower than the usual status rates.
* Between 1999-2000 and 2004-05, in the rural areas, WPR in the usual status approach increased by about 2 percentage points

for the males and by about 3 percentage points for females. In the urban areas, the rates increased by about 3 percentage points for both the males and females.

* In rural India, the proportion of 'all' male workers engaged in the agricultural activities declined gradually from 81 per cent in 1977-78 to 67 per cent in 2004-05. For 'all' female workers, the decline was less from 88 per cent in 1977-78 to 83 per cent in 2004-05.

* In urban India, the 'trade, hotel and restaurant' sector engaged about 28 per cent of the male workers while 'manufacturing' and 'other services' sectors accounted for nearly 24 and 21 per cent, respectively, of the usually employed males. On the other hand, for urban females, 'services' sector accounted for the highest proportion (36 per cent) of the total usually employed, followed by 'manufacturing' (28 per cent) and 'agriculture' (18 per cent).

* The proportion of urban females employed in 'manufacturing' sector increased from 24 per cent in 1999-2000 to 28 per cent in 2004-05. The 'trade, hotel and restaurant' sector revealed a fall in its share by about 5 percentage points between 1999-2000 and 2004-05. During this period, no such distinct changes are observed in the case of urban males.

D. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

* The unemployment rate (number of person unemployed per 1000 persons in the labour force), according to usual status (ps+ss), was 17 in the rural areas and 45 in the urban areas. The unemployment rates for females are found to be higher than that for males, and highest among urban females.

* The unemployment rates according to the current daily status (cds) approach are higher than the rates obtained according to usual status approach and weekly status approach, thereby indicating a high degree of intermittent unemployment.

* During the period 1999-2000 to 2004-05, the unemployment rate in terms of the usual status (ps+ss), remained almost the same for rural males and decreased by 1 percentage point for urban males, but the increased by about 1 percentage point for females in both the rural and urban areas.

* In both the rural and urban areas, unemployment rate among the educated (secondary and above) was higher than that among those whose education level was lower than secondary.
* The unemployment rate was much higher among the youth (15—29) as compared to that in the overall population.
* Among the educated youth, the unemployment rate was predominantly high in both the rural and urban areas: 267 and 208, respectively for females, and 133 and 91, respectively for males.

E. UNDER EMPLOYMENT

* During 2004-05, the proportion of usually employed females who were found not to be employed during the week preceding the date of survey was 17 per cent in rural India and nearly 9 per cent in urban India. The corresponding percentages for usually employed males were 4 and 2 only.
* The proportion of person-days of the usually employed utilized for work, in the rural and urban areas, was estimated at about 66 per cent and 80 per cent, respectively for females, and 89 and 95 per cent, respectively for males.
* During 2004-05, in the age group 15 years and above, about 11 per cent of usually employed rural males and 6 per cent of usually employed urban males sought or were available for additional work. The corresponding percentages for females were around 7 in both the rural and urban areas.
* During 2004-05, about 5 to 9 per cent of the usually employed persons of different categories had reported availability for alternative work.

F. LABOUR MOBILITY

* During the two years preceding the date of survey, about 1 per cent of the usually (ps) employed had changed their work status while about 7 (urban males) to 9 (rural females) per cent had changed their establishment.
* The proportion of persons who changed their establishment is much less among those with education level higher secondary

and above as compared to those with lower levels of education—be it rural or urban area.

* About 1 per cent of usual status (ps) workers reported change in their industry of work during the two years preceding the date of survey.

* About 1 per cent of male workers and less than 1 per cent of female workers reported change in their occupation during the two years preceding the date of survey.

Working conditions in IT sector

2363. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the study made by the National Labour Institute, on working conditions in IT sector; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, an autonomous society under the Ministry of Labour and Employment is mandated to carry out research and training on labour related issues. Its faculty enjoys considerable academic freedom in selecting the theme and the subject matter of research projects. As per this practice a micro-level study relating to labour in Business Process Outsourcing was conducted by one of the Associate Fellows of the Institute. The study was conducted during 2003. The report of the study was based on the findings of the field survey conducted among 277 customer care agents from six call centres in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. That way the study was based entirely on the responses of call centre agents in a limited geographical cluster.

The study evaluates the perceptions of work experience of the call centre agents to throw light on the potentialities and possible problem areas of human relations in order to strengthen the sustainability of the industry in the longer term. It does not represent the view of all the actors in the industry and does not purport to represent the entire BPO sector in